

WESTVIEW NEIGHBOR

ISSUE 13

Remembering the Past. Creating the Future.

FALL/WINTER 2015

2016 WESTVIEW OFFICER ELECTIONS

It is time to elect Westview Community Organization officers for 2016!

Each year officers are elected in December and this year's elections will be held on December 7, 2015. Officers are elected for a one year term and will assume their positions on the first meeting in January 2016. All officer positions are open to any member that would like to run including:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Assistant Secretary
- Treasurer
- Assistant Treasurer
- Chaplain
- Parliamentarian
- Correspondence Secretary

According to the Westview Community Organization (WCO) bylaws adopted in 2014, members are persons who are residents, business owners, or property owners in the immediate Westview Community. If you are interested in running please submit your name and information to Evelyn



May 2015 Westview Community Organization meeting.

Battle, Nominations Committee Chair at (404) 753-5455 by November 20, 2015.

If you are interested in volunteering but not sure you want to serve as an officer, please consider joining a committee. If you would like more information about the duties of any positions or to learn more about volunteering please email us at info@westviewatlanta.com.

WCO MEMBERSHIP

Last chance to join the WCO in 2015! Your membership helps pay for projects such as:

- *Westview Neighbor* Newsletter
- National Night Out
- Maintaining the landscaped traffic islands
- Meeting space
- P. O. Box
- And more!

Membership dues are only \$20 per household. To join visit www.westviewatlanta.com.

CRIME PREVENTION

Light Up Westview! Turn on your porch lights. Light up the neighborhood to discourage crime. #LightUpWestview

Clean Car Campaign: Don't leave *anything* visible in the car.

Car Safety: Don't leave your car running to warm up during the upcoming cold days.

2015 IN REVIEW

2015 marks the 40th anniversary of the Westview Community Organization (WCO). In honor of WCO, Calvary United Methodist Church hosted a special service in October. WCO would like to thank immediate past president, Ayana Gabriel, past presidents, Patrick Berry, Scott Smith, John Davis, Barbara Chambers, past and present officers and committee chairs, and Calvary United Methodist Church.

I would also like to offer a special thank you to all of the unnamed persons that have volunteered so much time and energy to ensuring that Westview is a "better place to live." 2015 brought trials as we were faced with the threat of losing our community garden. Luckily, a small group of neighbors came together to provide a loan to ensure that the land that is home to our garden, youth activities and community events remained as a hub for the community. This outpouring of support led to the creation of a GoFundMe campaign and a garden fundraiser party/auction over the summer that has raised \$3,750. We have a goal to raise \$10,000 to pay the loan back and provide a small budget to support garden operations. More information is available at <http://www.gofundme.com/WestviewGarden>.

Our Beautification committee has done a wonderful job of maintaining the triangle parks in the community at S. Gordon and RDA, S. Gordon and Willard, and Ontario and Stokes. The Membership committee ensures that the *Westview Neighbor* newsletter provides relevant and entertaining information about our community.

We held our eighth annual Summer Solstice Celebration festival in the Westview Village on Ralph David Abernathy. This move marks a major shift from Muse St and was the most well attended yet! The festival included vendors, a grill competition, kids games, and live music.

This year our summer camp grew from two weeks to a month long program. Armed with a \$7,000 grant from the Neighborhood Fund and a \$5,000 donation from the Evans Family Fund, the Youth and Garden committees, in conjunction with the John Perdue Legacy Project, hosted a camp focused on S.T.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math). The children displayed the art work created at the camp at our annual National Night Out celebration in August.

Our Safety committee maintained strong ties with Zone 4 officials to ensure a safe neighborhood. The Zoning and Code Enforcement committee has been working hard on creating a database to keep track of properties in need of placarding or demolition in the community.

The Opportunity School District (OSD), which allows the state to take over failing schools, will be voted on by the General Assembly in November. Currently, three of the six schools in the Washington Cluster are failing, making them eligible for take-over. Washington Cluster Advocacy Group (WCAG) is

advocating for a S.T.E.A.M.- centered charter cluster. WCAG holds meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of every month.

The Veggie Taste, Kim King Foundation and WCO partnered this year to host the 5th Annual Veggie Taste in September. The Veggie Taste educates attendees on the importance of changing over to a healthier eating lifestyle.

Another major accomplishment in 2015 was the creation of the Westview Commercial District Association (WCDA), tasked with creating a vision, leading development and addressing business-related issues in our commercial corridor. WCDA holds meetings on the 3rd Monday of every month. More information at <https://www.facebook.com/westviewcda>. WCO, Westview Pizza Café, WCDA, West End Neighborhood Development, Morehouse Student Government Association and Village MicroFund collaborated to discuss safety, amenities and development of the surrounding communities.

This year also brought major developments. Voters approved the infrastructure bond. Due to the efforts of our Development committee, Westview is scheduled to receive complete street improvements on Ralph David Abernathy totaling \$1.5M. For a list of this and other projects please visit <http://www.westviewatlanta.com/development>. The final parcel needed for Enota Park was acquired, paving the way for planning and construction of the future park. WCO has been engaged in work with Kaiser Foundation and the Atlanta Beltline Partnership to shape the health programming on the trail once it is completed in 2017. WCO and WCDA have worked with the City of Atlanta Office of Planning on the rezoning of the Westview Village to Neighborhood Commercial (NC). Two planning meetings will be held in 2015. The Development committee has been involved in planning "cash mobs" in partnership with other community leaders. D Café was featured as a part of this work. WCO and the WCDA also participated in the Southwest Atlanta Development Day, which showcases commercial properties to potential business owners.

Our last event of the year will be our annual holiday dinner potluck at Fire Station 17 on December 12, 2015. Sponsored by the Special Events committee, this is a time for neighbors to come together, celebrate the holiday season, and get to know each other better.

All of these accomplishments would not be possible without your support through dues and volunteer hours. 2015 has been a year of trials, triumph and growth. Now more than ever our neighborhood is positioned to be a leader on decisions about the redevelopment of Southwest Atlanta. Major development projects will continue to come in and around our community. Now is a great time to get involved to be part of the changes to come. Looking forward to seeing you at a neighborhood event soon!

- Octavia, President, Westview Community Organization

People of the Way of Jesus COFFEE HOUSE

Coffee, hot tea, juice and wrapped pastries available on a DONATION basis.

Listen to the music, use the WiFi, read a book, find inspirational quotes on our walls, play a game or even better - TALK with neighbors.

FIRST FRIDAY EVENTS: spoken word, live music, movie nights from 7pm to 9pm.

Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 6pm to 9pm; Saturdays 9am to 1pm; Sundays from 9am to Noon.

Location: Historic Fire Station #17, 1384 Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd. (at Cascade Ave.)



2014 holiday potluck at Fire Station #17.

HOLIDAY POTLUCK

Every year the Westview Community Organization hosts a holiday potluck at Fire Station #17. It is an opportunity for neighbors to come together, be festive, socialize and get to know one another better in a non-meeting environment.

The WCO provides a turkey and residents are encouraged to bring a side dish, such as dressing, vegetables, sweet potatoes, desserts, etc., to share. It is tradition to leave the leftovers for the fire fighters, so please consider bringing your dish in a disposable container.

Date: Saturday, December 12, 2015 from 12:00pm - 4:30pm

Location: Fire Station #17, 1489 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd.

Potluck sign-up: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0a45a8aa2ba2f49-westview>

NEIGHBORHOOD ZONING

Steffi Langer-Berry

In 2010 the Westview Community Organization held a planning session to develop the Westview Master Plan, which is the document that outlines the vision of the future for the neighborhood. Subsequently, the plan was adopted by Atlanta City Council and Mayor Reed in 2011 and became part of the city's Comprehensive Development Plan.



Part of the Westview Master Plan outlines to re-zone the Westview Village, the historic commercial properties surrounding the intersections of Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd. and Lucile Ave., to *Neighborhood Commercial (NC)*: "The purpose of the district is to revitalize and protect neighborhood commercial districts at a scale and character which is in keeping with the surrounding neighborhoods, provide neighborhood oriented shops and services, and emphasize pedestrian convenience." [City of Atlanta, Ordinance Fact Sheet] Existing Neighborhood Commercial districts include Little Five Points, East Atlanta Village, Virginia Highlands, Kirkwood, and Cascade Heights.

The WCO and WCDA are hosting a series of events for residents to once again provide input about desired uses to be included as part of the NC zoning. The first meeting was held on October 26, 2015 with a presentation by the city's Office of Planning. The next meeting will be on November 23 at 7:00pm at Area West Realty (1534 RDA). Please visit www.westviewatlanta.com for the TBD December meeting.

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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: D CAFE AND CATERING

Thomas Wheatley

Residents who wake up hungry for eggs, bacon, and other breakfast greatness need travel no farther than the corner of Ralph David Abernathy Boulevard and East Ontario Avenue in the heart of Westview Village. For nearly two years, D Cafe has been serving up delicious breakfast and lunch, along with special dishes, to Westview and neighboring communities. Recently the restaurant opened its doors on Tuesday and Friday nights to host upstart chefs, such as 95th St. Tacos, to experiment in the kitchen and bring new cuisine to southwest Atlanta. The restaurant also offers boxed lunches, holiday meals, and offers on- and off-site catering for corporate and private events.

Where are you from? I was born in Atlanta and moved to Aliquippa, Penn., at an early age. I returned to Atlanta in the 7th grade. I left again and attended Tallahassee Community College and returned to Atlanta.

How did you get started in cooking and food? I started cooking at a young age. We cooked for family events and enjoyed it. I'm a servant. I had been working for UPS, one of the best companies in the world, for 17 years and became sick — I was diagnosed with sarcoidosis, part of the Lupus family — and decided not to return. God allowed us to start the catering business, which led to opening the cafe.

What is the most popular meal at the restaurant? And what's your personal favorite meal? The most popular meal at the Cafe is the West End Breakfast Platter with cheese eggs and a homemade biscuit. My favorite meal is the Pork Chop Breakfast, with our creamy buttered grits, "best in town" cheese eggs, and a homemade biscuit.

Why did you decide to occasionally host pop-up chefs from other neighborhoods? What plans do you have for the initiative in the future? The pop-up chef idea was a collective idea. We decided to host different chefs, which brings awareness to D Cafe, the Westview neighborhood and allows the neighborhood choices when we are closed. In the future, we encourage other pop-up businesses to allow us to feature them, at our spot.



D Cafe and Catering

1540 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd.

Atlanta, GA 30310

Owner: Devotis Griffin Lee

Located in Westview since Dec. 2013

What inspired you to locate the business in Westview? I used to dream that I would have a big fine-dining restaurant and area for meetings of the minds on Cascade, so Westview is right in the middle and seems like the perfect fit for the beginning of my dream. It's close to I-20, Downtown. I don't have to go far to check on my Mom, who lives in the area, during the day. Westview is the perfect place for us. We love the area.

ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

WESTVIEW COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Meetings on the first Monday of the month at 7:00pm, Calvary United Methodist Church, 1471 Ralph David Abernathy Blvd.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, December 5: Brunch @ D Cafe, 1540 Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd, 10:00am

Monday, December 7: Westview Community Organization Meeting @ 1471 Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd, 7:00-8:00pm

Wednesday, December 9: NPU-T Meeting @ KIPP STRIVE Primary, 1444 Lucile Ave, 7:00-9:00pm

Saturday, December 12: Holiday Potluck @ Fire Station 17, 1489 Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd, 12:00-4:30pm

Thursday, December 17: Pizza Night @ Westview Pizza Cafe, 1550 Ralph D. Abernathy Blvd, 6:30pm

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Zone 4 Police:
(404) 756-1903

Code Enforcement:
(404) 330-6190

Sanitation/Public Works:
(404) 330-6333

STAY IN TOUCH

www.westviewatlanta.com

www.facebook.com/westviewatl

www.twitter.com/WestviewAtlanta

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/westviewcommunity/>

info@westviewatlanta.com

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